

25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Saturday, 21st March, 1981 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- TORQUAY UNITED

Today's match is sponsored by J.E.M. Spares (Motor Factors)

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MY POINT OF VIEW



CAN I first of all welcome the Manager and players of Torquay United to Springfield Park this afternoon, and I sincerely hope that their club can pull

itself out of the financial situation that has received much publicity recently.

Rochdale

The result against Rochdale two weeks ago was very disappointing for me because of a couple of reasons. First of all, no manager likes to get off to a bad start on his debut as I did, secondly we attracted a crowd of over 6,000 people to the game. Had we won the game, or put up a good performance, then that type of gate regularly would bring much needed revenue to the Club, thus helping me to create a much more successful team. The players need your help; I need your help; so, if I could ask you to really get

behind us, I am sure we can go from strength to strength.

Peterborough

Last week's result at Peterborough was very pleasing, because it was my first point as a manager. I felt very proud of the players, because there was a lot of honest endeavour throughout the game. Although we are looking sound at the back, we are still finding goalscoring difficult to come by. But having worked hard at this during the week, I am sure things in this department will improve.

Enjoy the game.

Larry Lloyd

Front Page photo: Larry Lloyd, the new player-manager, is prepared to take on all-comers.

Photograph by courtesy of "Evening Post and Chronicle"

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GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

GOALSCORERS, quite understandably, have always been popular with football supporters. They are always remembered with affection and they cause countless arguments as to who was the best. When goalscorers for Wigan Athletic are brought into the conversation by the fans, one of the first names to be mentioned will be that of Harry Lyon. Harry was perhaps the finest goalscorer ever to don a Latics shirt. He holds the record for the most goals in a season — a staggering 67 — a figure that will surely never be beaten. He was as deadly a finishing centre forward as one could find in non-league football at the time he was playing.

Harry Lyon was signed from Burscough by Allan Brown in 1965 and he began to hit the net straight away and the fans knew that the manager had brought a player of rare quality into the team. In a forward line that was ideally suited to his style, Harry revelled in the service of wingers Walter Stanley and John Ryan, the players who supplied

the crosses for so many of his goals.

Equally deadly with both feet and head, Harry was a big, bustling centre forward in the old mould who would "run through a brick wall" if it meant scoring a goal. But of all the goals he did score, there are three from Harry that stand out in the memory. All were scored in the same match and it was an F.A. Cup tie which no Latics fan will ever forget.

It was in the 1965-66 season when Latics were playing Doncaster Rovers at Springfield Park in a replay, after they had come away from Yorkshire with a magnificent draw in the first game. A big crowd turned up to see the game, but things looked black for Wigan Athletic when Harry Lyon was injured just before half time, and the local hero had to be carried from the field on a stretcher, with what appeared to be a severe leg injury. Harry went down the tunnel carrying Wigan's cup hopes with him, or so it was thought.

After half time, however, Harry reappeared on the touchline, swathed in bandages and, to quote his own words "with half a bottle of whisky inside". The cheer when he came back on the field could be heard in Doncaster; the cheers as he proceeded to score a hat-trick could be heard much farther afield. Latics finally won 3-1 and Harry Lyon became a Springfield Park immortal.

He stayed at Springfield through the reign of Allan Brown, and when Ian McNeill arrived for his first stint at Springfield Park, Harry was switched to centre half for a time. In fact, in his later years, he became "Mr. Versatile" and played in nearly every position for the team, even in goal when needed! Harry's illustrious career was coming to an end when Ian McNeill took over at Springfield and he was released at the end of the 1969-70 season, moving to Chorley. He never really settled at Victory Park and the career of a superb goalscorer came to an end in the early 1970's.

Harry now lives in Scholes, but still occasionally comes down to watch games at the ground which witnessed so many of his finest hours.



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by Fred Eyre

THE reserve team fixtures continue to splutter along, unfortunately, from my point of view, the set-up in the Umbro Floodlit League has left a lot to be desired.

Lack of games has been a big problem due to the small number of clubs involved, this has not been helped also by the fact that one of the clubs in the league has shown a complete lack of interest in the proceedings. Up to now we still have not

completed our fixtures in the League which finished before Christmas or the Cup which finished last week, a state of affairs I have never encountered before in a professional League.

Our early exit in "The Jack Clough Memorial Trophy" which consisted of the same five other teams that we played in the League and the Cup also ensured that we did not get in any extra games. The 2-4 defeat in this Trophy at Chester was even more disappointing, because it was the first opportunity for Larry Lloyd to see these lads in action, and I am afraid they didn't really do themselves justice. We looked good in the first fifteen minutes and fully deserved to lead from a fine Jim Oliver header, but unfortunately, after this, we didn't play well and let the game slip from our grasp. Our team at Chester was as follows:- 1. Brown, 2. Fretwell, 3. B. Freeman, 4. Tierney, 5. Clarke, 6. Gray, 7. Silcock, 8. W. Urquhart, 9. Oliver, 10. Hutchinson, 11. McMullan, 12. Cunliffe. Scorers: Oliver, Fretwell.

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AS WE move towards the closing stages of our third season in League football, we begin to take stock of the situation and try to give a little time to planning for yet another campaign. This year, with the close-season extended by almost a month, the financial pressures on the Football Club during the period May to August will increase, for, although games will not be played, wages still have to be paid to full-time staff, ground maintenance and improvements have to be carried out, and, given sufficient funds, team strengthening has to take place. The benefits afforded by T.V. fees and Cup competition hand-outs will not be available to the club until late summer, and, with the man in the street finding money hard to come by, season ticket sales may well be slow to get off the ground. It becomes obvious, therefore, that the Commercial Department will again be required to step up its activities if the challenge is to be met. Many of the ideas generated from within my department are aimed primarily at business concerns and advertisers in general, but supporters can help during the close-season by regularly purchasing the odd lottery ticket and by spreading the right kind of message about a Football Club which definitely intends to make progress in even the most difficult times. Please

continue to give the club, and its commercial activities, your enthusiastic support, and help us to build an even better and stronger Wigan Athletic.

We are pleased to acknowledge the sponsoring of today's game by J.E.M. Spares (Motor Factors) of 21, Ladies Lane, Hindley, Telephone No's. 54224 and 55357. Under the personal supervision of the proprietor, Mr. John Magee, J.E.M. offers a comprehensive spares' service to the trade for plant, commercial vehicle and cars, and also provides a fast delivery service in the area. J.E.M. stock all leading manufacturers' spares, including Borg and Beck clutches, Lockheed Hydraulics and Steering etc. and Automotive Products, Filters and Silencers.

Today's Match Ball has been kindly donated by two enthusiastic supporters of Wigan Athletic, Mr. John Catterall and Mr. Terence Rudd. To J.E.M. Spares, and the supporters, we extend our thanks for their practical demonstration of support.

Looking forward to a good afternoon's entertainment.

Jack Sudworth,
Commercial Manager.



Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 18th March, 1981.

Dear Readers,

We have received two excellent letters since our last issue and we hope you find their contents as interesting as we did. All best wishes.

Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

Dear Mr. Sudworth,

20 St. Clements Road, Wigan, WN1 2RU. 3rd March, 1981.

After travelling away to York in January and to Bury recently, the differences in value for money came to my attention. At York, all Latics fans had to pay full price (Children included) of £1.30, to enter the ground, but to stand or sit under cover, an extra 50p. had to be paid. What was really annoying was that the young York City supporters only had to pay 70p. At Bury, an entrance fee of £1.20 and 60p. was charged. This enabled you to stand or sit under cover for no extra charge.

I am sure, that every club would like a few more thousand through the turnstiles each match, but with entrance fees so high, it is not surprising crowds are decreasing. At Bury, value for money is very good, but at York it is not surprising only a small gate is achieved. I hope Latics will continue to give value for money both on and off the field, and so set an example to other clubs, to give the crowds more for their money.

The best of luck to Larry Lloyd and Fred Eyre, and to all the players for the rest of the season.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Siney

42 Poolstock Lane, Worsley Mesnes.

Dear Sir,

This letter concerns the fencing off at the "Shevington End" of the ground. During this season, in view of the very few away supporters using the "End", could it be arranged to erect a section of fencing directly behind the goals for next season, thus allowing home supporters to use a section of the "Shevington End". In the past, it was a known fact that when the home team was playing towards that end, the supporters would move to support them. This must encourage the players, who cannot enjoy playing to empty terraces. I appreciate the safety reasons for erecting the existing fence, but I do hope that by the start of the next season, something can be sorted out between the club and the police.

Latics fanatic,
Stephen Cowan.

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PHOTOFILE



ABOVE:

The Rochdale goalkeeper Graeme Crawford holds on to the ball as Mark Wignall challenges

RIGHT:

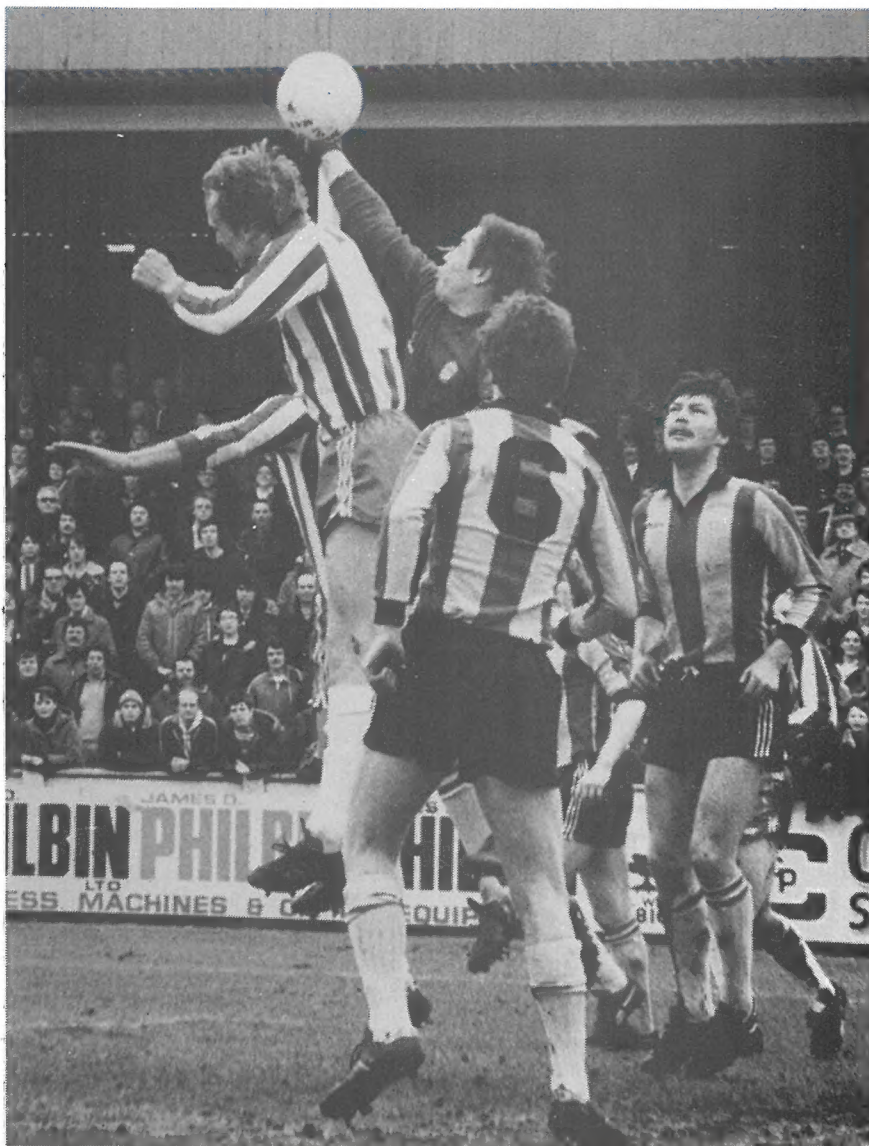
Colin Methven and Larry Lloyd mount a joint attack on the Rochdale goal.

Photographs by courtesy of David Cookson.



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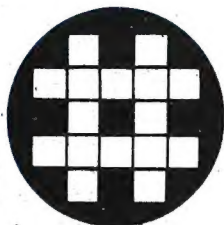
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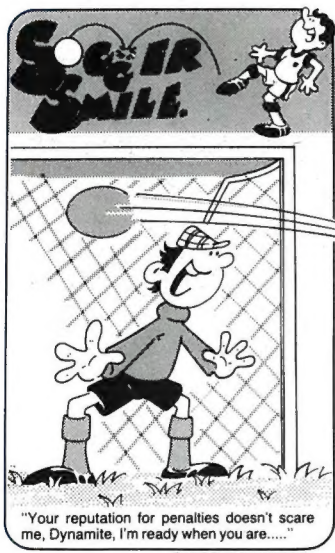
PASTIME-FUNTIME



ON THE BALL

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

Hales, perhaps; Ted Fenton's brother; Bratislava side; --- Daniel.



© MIKE TURNER CARTOONS

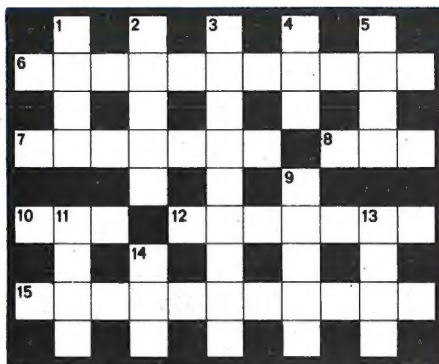
CLUB CLUE

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side.

Just kept going, we're told.

MIXED DOUBLES

Rearrange the letters in each of the words **NODS** and **RASP** to find two Scottish club nicknames.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

(compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

6. Old Colchester winger whose record of League appearances for the club was overtaken by full-back Micky Cook last season (5,6)
7. Former Tranmere and Liverpool defender who has had close on 400 League games for Chester (7)
8. --- Davies was capped whilst with Bolton, Newcastle, Manchester City, Manchester United and Blackpool (3)
10. One of the clubs well-known initially (1,1,1)
12. Utility man who moved to Blackburn from Sheffield United last summer (7)
15. Athletic side (11)

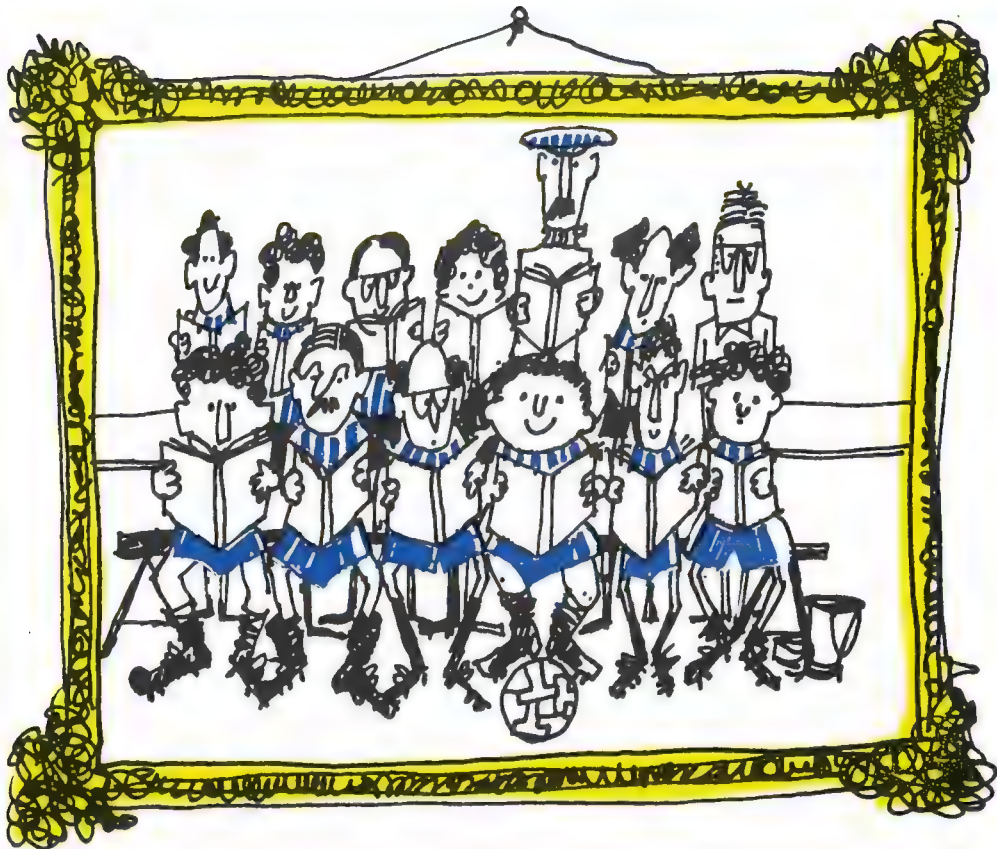
DOWN

1. & 14dn. A player who has been --- before the game gets going can only be replaced if play has not yet started (4,3)
2. Connor or Curran (5)
3. Blackburn's base (5,4)
4. Melrose or McDonagh (3)
5. The home of Halifax (4) -
9. The first name of the first man (no relation of 6ac) to make 100 international appearances (5)
11. One of Tottenham's tints (4)
13. Former Villa forward who starred for New York Cosmos but came back to become a Coventry regular (4)
14. See 1dn

1980/81 series
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Answers on Page 22.





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OUR VISITORS



TORQUAY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB — 1980-1981 (Left to right) **Back Row:** Keith Bowker, Brian Wilson, Vince O'Keefe, Albert Larmour, Maurice Cox. **Middle Row:** Mike Hickman (Coach), Steve Cooper, Graham Jones, Les Lawrence, Derek Bellotti, Steve Hayes, Richard Bourne, Gerry Fell, Mike Green (Manager). **Front Row:** Ian Twitchin, Peter Coffill, Freddie Pethard, Tommy Sermanni, Dave Smith, Jimmy Weston. Photograph by courtesy of Colin Bratcher.

TODAY we welcome as our visitors the directors, management, staff and supporters of the Torquay United Football Club to Springfield Park for our return league encounter. We hope that their long journey has been incident-free and that today's game will be as exciting and enjoyable as previous meetings between the two clubs.

Although events at Plainmoor have recently been overshadowed by the financial problems which are common to all Football League clubs in this day and age, we are sure that the skill and endeavour of "The Gulls" players will continue to give the loyal Plainmoor following enjoyment and encouragement for the future. Certainly, manager Mike Green has a reputation for producing sides which try to attack their opponents, and it is worth noting that several excellent goals have been netted in our five previous league encounters. To date, Torquay United have had slightly the better of the exchanges, but, under new player-manager Larry Lloyd, the Wigan Athletic side is showing defensive steel that promises to make it very hard for opposing forward lines. If the necessary cutting edge can be applied to the team's attacking efforts, then sooner or later some side is going to pay for long months of frustrated effort. We trust that today's game will be played in a good spirit and produce a high-level of entertainment for

a following which is becoming more critical and more anxious to get value for money.

We look forward to many more meetings with our friends from the South Coast, and we are sure that, once their temporary problems have been overcome, "The Gulls" will continue their much-respected membership of the Football League.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

Season 1978/1979

14th March 1979 Wigan Ath. 3 Torquay Utd. 1
H.T. Score 2-1 Att. 5,722
Scorers: Wigan Ath. Magre, (2) Hinnigan.

7th April 1979

Torquay Utd. Lawrence
Torquay Utd. 1 Wigan Ath. 1
H.T. Score 0-1 Att. 2,969
Scorers: Torquay Utd. Payne
Wigan Ath. Houghton

Season 1979/80

6th Oct. 1979 Wigan Ath. 0 Torquay Utd. 3
H.T. Score 0-1 Att. 6,541
Scorers: Wigan Ath. —
Torquay Utd. Cooper, Davies, Sermanni

14th March 1980 Torquay Utd. 2 Wigan Ath. 2
H.T. Score 2-1 Att. 2,824
Scorers: Torquay Utd. Lawrence (2)
Wigan Ath. Corrigan, Whittle

Season 1980/1981

18th Oct. 1980 Torquay Utd. 2 Wigan Ath. 0
H.T. Score 1-0 Att. 2,013
Scorers: Torquay Utd. Bowker, Cooper
Wigan Ath. —

PEN PICT

KEITH BOWKER

Bromwich. Signed for this summer from Ex was leading goalscorer in Division One City, then moved to Ex 1974. He moved to City later for £8,000 but after twelve months after transfer having played loan to Northampton League games he has can play anywhere in

PETER COFFILL

Signed in December where he was an turning full professional enthusiastic forward crowd favourite at both

STEVE COOPER

Last season's leading arrived from South Stourbridge in 1978. Youth International, Brighton, then manager. He later left the club with Dover, and then Stourbridge. He is a dangerous striker and of a goal every two what a bargain signing must be worth much £5,000 he cost. Last the Year.

MAURICE COX

Born in England Schoolboy in 12 second goal in last game was the fastest

Although a student at University he has produced score goals at first team expected to make a start in League soccer this season the former Torquay player

GERRY FELL

Born in Brighton and he played 65 League games before moving to South 1977. Although he cost a free transfer, manager signed him to replace Steve Cooper (for £65,000) and was expected to get him for nothing.

STEVE HAYES

Played one game on loan arrived at Plainmoor for this summer on a free Shrewsbury Town with their promotion sides

TORQUAY UTD

Ground: Plainmoor, Torquay.
Year Formed: 1898

Football League Record:
1927 Elected to Third Division (South)
1927-1958 Member of Third Division
1958-1960 Member of Fourth Division
1960-1962 Member of Third Division
1962-1966 Member of Fourth Division
1966-1972 Member of Third Division
1972-1981 Member of Fourth Division



TURES

— Born West
r a bargain £5,000
eter City where he
r. Keith began his
e with Birmingham
xeter for £7,000 in
ambridge two years
returned to Exeter
r that on a free
d a few games on
n. In nearly 250
scored 77 goals and
the team.

— Born Romford.
1977 from Watford
apprentice before
onal. A skilful and
who has been a
th his clubs.

— Born Stourbridge.
g goalscorer who
uthern League
A former England
his first club was
ed by Brian Clough.
before joining up
en transferred to
hard working and
his scoring record
games shows just
ng he was and he
h more than the
season's Player of

— Born Torquay. Former
international whose
st season's Varsity
ever at Wembley.
st at Cambridge
proved that he can
m level and will be
strong challenge for
ason. His father is
ayer Geoff Cox.

— Born Newark. His first
d Hove Albion and
e games for them
end for £20,000 in
me to Plainmoor on
ager Mike Green
Donal Murphy (sold
highly delighted to

— Born Smethwick.
an to us in 1976, he
or the second time
ree transfer from
ere he played in
from Division Four



to Division Two. A strong aggressive
player — he is a defender with a lot of pace.

ALBERT LARMOUR — Born Belfast. An
experienced central defender who began
his career with Linfield in the Irish
League. He then moved to Cardiff City
where he made over 200 appearances
including several in the European Cup
Winners Cup. He came to Plainmoor in
the summer of 1979 and as well as
captaining the first team, he took over the
running of the club's All Weather Training
Complex.

LES LAWRENCE — Born Rowley Regis.
A dangerous and feared striker who forms
a very good partnership with Steve
Cooper — one of the best in Division Four.
His first club was Stourbridge from where
he moved to Shrewsbury. He then joined
Southern League Telford but before he
played a game for them came to
Plainmoor in a bargain £1,000 deal.
Showed his versatility by playing a few
games in defence at the end of last
season.

VINCE O'KEEFE — Born Birmingham.
Signed for a record £25,000 from Exeter
City in February 1979 where he had gone
straight into their promotion winning
team on joining from Southern League
A.P. Leamington in 1976. A former
Birmingham City apprentice he is a highly
rated 22 year old who manager Mike
Green sees as future First Division
material.

FREDDIE PETHARD — Born Glasgow.
Began his career with Celtic in 1966 but
was released in 1969 and joined Cardiff
City where he made well over 200
appearances in Division Two and Three as
well as the Cup Winners Cup. He came to
Plainmoor in July 1979 and is a versatile
and consistent full back.

TOMMY SERMANI — Born Glasgow.
Enjoyed a highly successful first season
at Plainmoor following his transfer from
Blackpool in August 1979. A very talented

midfielder who began with Scottish
League Albion Rovers where he
combined soccer with schoolteaching.
After 138 League games for them,
Blackpool allowed him only half a dozen
chances to justify his £14,000 transfer in
May 1978 and allowed him to move for a
bargain £7,000 a year later.

IAN TWITCHIN — Born Exeter. By far the
club's longest serving player, but at 28 he
is no veteran. He has been with the club
for fifteen years and been a professional
since February 1970. A former England
Youth International he has only missed
three League games in the last three
seasons and won the Player of the Year
Award in 1977-78. Primarily a fullback
who can also play in midfield.

JIMMY WESTON — Born Skelmersdale.
Mike Green was more than pleased to
sign this talented midfielder for £12,500
during the close season. A left sided
player who can also play at fullback or up



front, he has been a consistent member of
the Blackpool team for three seasons and
last season was one of the main reasons
that they avoided relegation.

BRIAN WILSON — Born Newcastle-
upon-Tyne. The third former Blackpool
player at Plainmoor, he cost £15,000 in
1979. Mainly a defender he graduated
through Blackpool's apprenticeship
scheme and can also play as a striker or
midfielder. A good adaptable youngster
who is improving all the time now that he
is a regular first team player.

GRAHAM JONES — Born Manchester.
Mike Green was really pleased to sign
Graham for £17,500 from Luton Town in
August having bought the player
following a successful months loan last
season. Picked up from Manchester
schools soccer in 1975, Graham
progressed so fast that he was playing
League football twelve months later as a
seventeen year old. He is an adaptable
back four or midfield player.

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Home fixtures in capitals. Player scoring in bold.
 Wigan scores first. † Player substituted.

2 Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
 * In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug. 9	CREWE ALEXANDRA F.L. Cup 1 1st Leg	2-1	5,512		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Tierney	A. Quinn
Aug. 13	Crewe Alexandra F.L. Cup 1 2nd Leg AET	2-2	4,063		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore†	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Tierney	McMullan
Aug. 16	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	0-3	5,332		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	M. Quinn
Aug. 23	Lincoln City	0-2	3,939		Brown	Curtis	Fretwell		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	McMullan
Aug. 27	Preston N.E. F.L. Cup 2 1st Leg.	0-1	8,028		Brown	Curtis	Fretwell		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	A. Quinn
Aug. 30	ALDERSHOT	1-0	4,300		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright†	Houghton	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	A. Quinn
Sep. 3	PRESTON N.E. F.L. CUP 2 2nd Leg	1-2	9,892		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright†	Houghton	Hutchinson	M. Quinn	A. Quinn
Sep. 6	PORT VALE	1-0	4,666		Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore†	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Corrigan	Glenn
Sep. 13	Darlington	1-3*	2,321		Brown	Fretwell	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Oliver	Hutchinson	Corrigan	Glenn
Sep. 16	Halifax Town	1-0	2,052		Brown	Curtis	Kettle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Sep. 20	BURY	2-1	6,021		Ward	Curtis	Kettle	Gore†	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Sep. 27	Mansfield Town	1-3	3,402		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 1	HALIFAX TOWN	4-1	4,247		Ward	Curtis	Kettle†		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 4	Reichdale	0-3	3,479		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 8	DONCASTER ROVERS	3-0	3,608		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 11	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	1-1	5,320		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 18	Torquay United	0-2	2,013		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 20	Southern United	0-1	5,843		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 25	TRANMERE ROVERS	1-1	5,421		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Oct. 29	YORK CITY	1-0	3,668		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Nov. 1	A.F.C. Bournemouth	0-3	2,983		Ward	Curtis	Kettle		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	Corrigan	M. Quinn
Nov. 4	Doncaster Rovers	1-1	3,625		Ward	Curtis	Fretwell		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 8	BRADFORD CITY	0-1	5,155		Ward	Curtis	Fretwell		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 12	NOTHAMPTON TOWN	3-0	5,375		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 15	Hartlepool F.A. Cup 1	1-3	5,020		Brown	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 22	CHESTERFIELD F.A. CUP 1	2-2	8,682		Brown	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 25	Chesterfield F.A. Cup 1 Replay	0-2	8,372		Brown	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Nov. 29	Hereford United	1-1	2,328		Brown	Curtis	Fretwell		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Dec. 6	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	1-1	3,790		Brown	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Dec. 13	Crewe Alexandra	2-1	2,829		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Dec. 26	CREWE ALEXANDRA	0-0	3,026		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Dec. 27	Stockport County	1-0	3,062		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Jan. 3	SOUTHEATH UNITED	0-1	5,267		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Jan. 10	YORK CITY	1-2	2,028		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Jan. 24	Aldershot	1-0	2,932		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Jan. 31	LINCOLN CITY	0-2	5,190		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 3	Northampton Town	1-1	1,708		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 7	DARLINGTON	3-1	3,626		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 11	HEREFORD UNITED	1-0	3,370		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 14	Port Vale	0-3	3,214		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 21	MANSFIELD TOWN	2-0	4,032		Ward	Fretwell	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Feb. 28	Bury	0-0	4,700		Ward	Curtis	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Mar. 7	ROCHDALE	0-1	6,029		Ward	Curtis	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Mar. 13	Peterborough United	0-0	6,029		Ward	Curtis	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Mar. 21	TORQUAY UNITED	0-0	3,455		Ward	Curtis	McAdam		Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Kettle	McMullan
Mar. 29	Tranmere Rovers															
Mar. 31	Wimbledon															
Apr. 4	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH															
Apr. 11	Bradford City															
Apr. 18	STOCKPORT COUNTY															
Apr. 25	WIMBLEDON															
May 2	Scunthorpe United															

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Spectators are asked to note that the game against Tranmere Rovers, at Prenton Park, will take place on Sunday, 29th March, 1981. Kick-off 2.30 p.m.

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PLAYER

Brian Kettle

(Defender)

Birthplace: Liverpool

Place of Residence: Huyton,

Merseyside.

Date of Birth: 22nd April 1956

Height: 5'9"

Weight: 12st. 1lbs.

Previous Professional Club:
Liverpool

Advice to Youngsters: Keep your spirits up, even when things go wrong. Always give 100% effort and listen to good advice, from those experienced in the game.

After joining the club in early September, Brian gradually adjusted to the demands of Fourth Division Soccer, only to be struck down by a severe knee injury in his fourteenth game for the club. His recovery has been slow, but this big-hearted player is already looking forward to making a big impact in Season 1981-1982.



Photo by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter

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WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST

GOOD afternoon, welcome to our friends from Torquay, from the committee and bar staff of the Supporters' Club.

Last week saw the start of "September Club", this is the name of our new over 60's club run by Nellie Winstanley and her band of volunteers. Every Wednesday afternoon they meet at the club between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and so far it seems to be a tremendous success. Anyone wishing to join, just come along, you will be made very welcome.

Another venture that is doing very well is "The Wigan Athletic Supporters' 300 Club". Anyone wishing to join can contact myself or any other member of the committee. For the sum of £12.00 payable in advance, or by £2.00 per month, you can win monthly prizes of £60, £30 and £15 for a period of five months, during the sixth month a draw will take place in the club, for the following prizes — three colour televisions and three portable televisions (not bad for 50p. per week!!)

At our next home match you will be able to vote for your Player of the Year. Voting papers will be made available on entering the ground, and after deciding on your player would you please place voting papers in the boxes made available. The presentation will take place in the Club on Wednesday, 15th April at about 9.00

p.m. and tickets will be available for the event priced £1.00 and the evening will be supported by a full cabaret. On the Saturday following the presentation, which is the home match with Stockport County, the trophy will be presented to the winner before the match, for the benefit of the younger spectators.

Finally, our artists for the week-ending 21st March, 1981 — Saturday, Mike Hurst, Sunday, Lee Norse, and the following weekend — 28th March, 1981, Saturday, Chris Campbell, Sunday Dave Dean.

Call in and see us for a drink after the match.

Stuart Cooper
Chairman

SUPPORTERS
CLUB NEWS



TO ALL intents and purposes, dealings on the transfer market for this season came to an end of Thursday, 12th March, without the usual flurry of new signings. It was one of the quietest deadline days for years — and not everyone got exactly what they wanted. Promotion chasing Lincoln City's bid to attract Blackburn Rovers defender Roger De Vries on a free transfer failed.

Terry Park returned from American action with Minnesota Kicks to re-sign for his old club Stockport County and Nottingham Forest's young goalkeeper Steve Sutton has joined Mansfield Town on loan. Still with goalkeepers, Chester's Brian Lloyd has been given permission to stay on at Port Vale until the end of the season. Meanwhile, promotion dark-horses A.F.C. Bournemouth strengthened their squad by swooping for Chelsea striker Chris Sulley.

Lincoln City have loaned out second-choice goalkeeper Kevin Fox to Hull City, on the day when their "first-string" Dave Felgate, was once again afforded international recognition. Dave, who has had a topsyturvy career with teams as far apart in divisions as Rochdale and Bolton was again selected in the Welsh squad for the forthcoming World Cup qualifying game against Turkey in Ankara.

Halifax Town, who a few days earlier, had signed Brian Chambers from A.F.C. Bournemouth, marked his debut with a 2-1 home victory at the expense of Torquay United. Incidentally, Halifax Town at one time seemed to be heading for what must be one of soccer's most unenvied records — they had no less than four players serving

suspensions at the same time.

Bradford City's experiment with Sunday soccer could hardly be called a success. Their attendance for the Sunday game with Rochdale was actually BELOW their average Saturday "gate"! Division Four leading scorers to Saturday, 14th March: Cooke (Peterborough United) 23, Cork (Wimbledon) 22, Lumby (Mansfield Town) 20, Hobson (Lincoln City) 19, Phillips (Northampton Town) 19, Spence (Southend United) 19.

FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 19th MARCH, 1981.

	P	W	Home			A	W	D	Away			Pts.
			D	L	F				L	F	A	
Southend United	38	17	2	0	41	4	9	3	7	26	21	57
Lincoln City	37	11	7	1	39	11	9	5	4	19	10	52
Doncaster Rovers	37	11	4	4	29	18	6	6	6	18	24	44
Mansfield Town	37	12	2	4	29	9	7	3	9	20	23	43
Aldershot	37	11	7	1	22	5	5	3	10	13	26	42
Peterborough Utd.	37	9	6	4	33	18	5	7	6	25	26	41
Wimbledon	36	11	3	3	33	12	6	4	9	19	27	41
Hartlepool Utd.	38	10	3	6	33	22	6	5	8	21	32	40
Bournemouth	38	9	6	4	28	17	6	4	9	13	22	40
Darlington	37	9	5	4	34	20	6	4	9	21	30	39
Torquay Utd.	37	12	1	5	34	19	5	3	11	17	32	38
Bradford City	38	8	8	3	25	18	4	6	9	18	31	38
Wigan Athletic	38	10	4	5	24	14	4	5	10	12	29	37
Northampton Town	36	10	3	5	37	22	4	5	9	17	36	36
Rochdale	37	9	5	5	28	21	3	7	8	22	33	36
Crewe Alexandra	38	8	6	6	23	19	3	7	8	18	31	35
Scunthorpe Utd.	38	5	11	3	29	24	2	8	9	16	28	33
Bury	36	7	6	4	24	15	4	2	13	23	37	30
Tranmere Rovers	36	10	4	3	31	14	1	4	14	14	40	30
Port Vale	36	9	5	5	36	20	1	4	12	13	42	29
Stockport County	37	6	5	8	23	24	5	2	11	12	25	29
York City	35	9	2	6	27	14	1	6	11	9	33	28
Halifax Town	37	6	3	9	24	28	1	8	10	14	33	25
Hereford Utd.	36	6	6	6	24	17	1	3	13	6	39	23



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SCENE & HEARD

WHATEVER the long standing rivalry between the Wigan Athletic and Altrincham Football Clubs, we are sure that even the most die-hard Springfield Park follower can have nothing but admiration for the way in which the "Robins" have again mounted an assault on the Alliance Premier League Championship. The decline of Northwich Victoria's challenge in recent weeks, now makes it virtually certain that the destination of this season's championship honours will be to either Altrincham or Kettering Town, both clubs with ambitions to join the Football League. In spite of their disappointment at failing to reach Wembley, the Altrincham Football Club must be over the moon at the prospect of gaining a second successive championship honour, and the probable nomination for consideration as potential Football League members at the Annual General Meeting to be held later in the year. After last year's close-run attempt, hopes will again be high, but our own past experiences prompt us to offer a word of cautionary advice to our near-neighbours. Very often, when our own case seemed almost cut and dried, we were left to speculate about a rapid change in opinions that had transformed Wigan Athletic from near-certainties for Football League membership to mere also-rans. Although the four clubs required to seek re-

election to the Football League have yet to be determined, it is a certainty, that when the four are finally recognised, they will all be accepted as experienced and long-standing members of the senior body. It is not our purpose to discuss the merits of the Altrincham case nor the arguments in favour of retaining the status quo, but merely to point out that the acquisition of Football League membership will be as difficult this year for any non-league club as in any year past. Whatever the outcome, should Altrincham gain the Alliance Premier League Championship, one must acknowledge the magnificent achievement of the Cheshire Club in maintaining their case over a long period, in the face of strong opposition.

Still on the non-league scene, it appears that the South of England has the odds stacked very heavily in its favour as the F.A. Challenge Trophy Competition for Season 1980-1981 reaches the Semi-Final stage. Only Bangor City, attempting to become the first Welsh Club side to win at Wembley since Cardiff City took the F.A. Cup in 1927, remains to meet the challenge posed by Bishop's Stortford, Dartford, and either Aylesbury United or Sutton United. The Semi-Finals will be played on the 4th and the 11th of April.

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LATICS AWAY

**SUNDAY,
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KICK-OFF 2.30 p.m.**

Football League Division Four

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PLAYER OF THE YEAR Season 1980/1981

The vote organised by the Supporters' Club will take place at the Wigan Athletic v Bournemouth game on Saturday 4th April, 1981. Don't miss the chance to register your opinion.

PROGRAMME FAIR

at Oldham Athletic Football Club
Boundary Park, Oldham.
10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Sunday, 29th March, 1981.

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The Chairman's Column

I AM sure all the recent publicity about clubs finding it difficult to make ends meet in these difficult times will not have been lost on our keen followers. When a club like Newcastle United, steeped as it is in tradition and cup success, loses the services of very able and experienced directors who are no longer prepared to sign away their own and their families' financial futures in giving guarantees to the bankers, then the warning signs are flying for all to see. Tranmere Rovers, at our own level, have stated publicly that their future hangs in the balance, as their local authority deliberates on the feasibility of a large car park at Prenton being utilised for supermarket development.

Other clubs, up and down the country, find themselves involved in negotiations with bankers, local authorities and land developers, as they seek to raise the additional capital, or buy a little time, in their fight for survival. For every club which makes its problem public, there must be another five or six who share the same struggle, but for one reason or another, don't put their cards on the table.

Everyone is finding it increasingly hard to survive, including Wigan Athletic. As I wrote in the last issue of the programme, the signing-up of Larry Lloyd is a calculated risk which we hope will encourage the public of Wigan and its surrounding districts, to back our efforts to put the club firmly on the soccer map. The "gate" against Rochdale was most encouraging, and we do need that kind of support regularly if we are to progress. We don't want to have a club which only survives because it sells its best players; we want to keep our playing assets and build up a formidable pool of quality professionals.

I must note, before closing, that our team's performance at Peterborough was full of character and honest endeavour. Our defence performed magnificently, but we cannot expect to make much progress until we begin to hit the back of the net more frequently.

Stick with us right to the end of the season, and enjoy today's game.

Yours sincerely,
Freddie Pye

Chairman.

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CLUB CLUE No. 23 Preston (pressed on)
MIXED DOUBLES No. 23 Dons, Pars.



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Colin Methven

Larry Lloyd

George Urquhart

Jeff Wright

Mike Quinn

Peter Houghton

Frank Corrigan

Jim Oliver

**Torquay
United**
(All Yellow)

1 Vince O'Keefe

2 Graham Jones

3 Freddie Pethard

4 Peter Coffill

5 Steve Hayes

6 Brian Wilson

7 Gerry Fell

8 Maurice Cox

9 Keith Bowker

10 Ian Twitchin

11 Jimmy Weston

12 Albert Larmour

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(Mansfield)

Commenced refereeing in Macclesfield and District Leagues, and then via Mid-Cheshire and Cheshire County Leagues to the Football League line, supplementary and full lists. Has refereed Cheshire Senior Cup and Cheshire Premier Bowl Finals, also lined in European Cup quarter-final in Czechoslovakia and Anglo-Italian Cup matches in Italy, and refereed the Alliance Premier League Cup Final. A married man with two children, he runs his own business of plumbing and property repair and has spare time interests in squash and gardening. He is also President of the local Referees' Association.

Linesmen:

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Mr. R. A. Funnell

(Chester)

Yellow Flag

Mr. T. Little

(Burnley)

HERE NEXT

Saturday, 4th April, 1981.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-
A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH**
Football League Division Four